

# Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

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MARCH 4, 1999

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No. 4

## 1999 Season of North American Missions

Week of Prayer for North  
American Missions  
March 7-14, 1999

North American Missions  
Day in Sunday School  
March 14, 1999

Annie Armstrong  
Easter Offering

National Goal:  
\$45,000,000

Challenge Goal:  
\$50,000,000

www.namb.net/annie



## WHAT'S IN THE RECORD

Building project begins



Partnership requested



SBC name likely to stay



'99 AAEO emphasis



## Missionary believes in relational approach

PONCE, Puerto Rico - Officially, Victor Martinez is a catalytic missionary, with the responsibility for helping encourage new church plants across South Central Puerto Rico. To many of the pastors with whom he works, he is also a friend. His regular visits to their homes allow Martinez to share both victories and struggles in their lives and ministries.

His relational approach is something of a model for how both he and the North American Mission Board would like to see church planting efforts begin to explode on the island he calls home.

"We have been trying to be mentors and not just teachers," said Martinez.

"Instead of starting churches, I encourage the local church pastors and leaders to be mentors, to raise church planters," said Martinez, a North American Mission Board missionary. "I am in the process of trying to give the vision to a lot of the pastors in this area that even though they're poor and they don't have a lot of resources or a lot of leadership, it is really their job to do this."

Martinez and his wife, Virginia, are among the missionaries featured in this year's Week of Prayer for North American Missions, March 7-14. The Week of Prayer is part



ENCOURAGING PASTORS — Catalytic missionary Victor Martinez (center) plays with Carlitos Pacheco, the son of pastor Carlos Pacheco, during one of his regular visits with several pastors in his region of responsibility in south central Puerto Rico, helping them overcome hurdles in their churches as well as mentor potential new pastors and church planters from within their congregations. (Photo by James Dotson)

of the Season of North American Missions, which also includes the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering with a national goal for 1999 of \$45 million and a challenge goal of \$50 million.

A native of Puerto Rico, Martinez knows personally the value of mentoring based on his own salvation experience while a student at Mississippi State University. He became a member of a small rural church that took its role of discipleship seriously.

years there as pastor of an inner city work for fellow Hispanics also gave him a foundation for the challenges of starting churches among people with few material resources.

"The main thing in Puerto Rico is that we want to buy the American dream...but we still have a third world pocket," Martinez said. "So a lot of these folks, by the time they are in the first or second year of college they are in debt up to here.... Even if they're Christians, they'll just go to church and that's it because they're working two jobs and that sort of thing. They're useless to the kingdom because they have no time."

The networking also helps pastors share their ministry burdens. Martinez tries to meet with the pastors individually, some as often as once a week, in addition to workshops planned about every two months.

In addition, the informal network through telephone and e-mail provides ongoing support and sharing of resources.

"It creates a really neat network that just kind of spontaneously grows and makes the other people in the network strong, and it also has taught us and the other pastors to be more teachers, to realize there's so much going on out there (to which) we should be open."



Johnny Buckner, pastor of Broadmoor Church, Starkville, met with him each week for a year in his dorm room, and associate pastor Martin Stidham met with him the second year. "I went through the Bible twice," he said.

Right away, they encouraged him to become involved in reaching fellow Hispanics and other ethnics, and it wasn't long before he realized his call to vocational ministry.

After graduation he attended Southwestern Seminary in Fort Worth, where he met his wife, a Texan of Mexican descent. Seven

## Looking back

### 10 years ago

Carolyn Weatherford, 59, executive director of the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union auxiliary, announces she will retire and marry James Joseph "Joe" Crumpler Sr., pastor of Mt. Carmel Church in Cincinnati, Ohio. The wedding will take place in Birmingham.

### 20 years ago

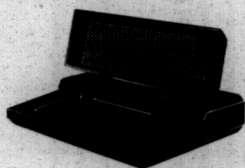
Tim Nicholas' book, *More Than Just Talk*, is selected as a Round Table book for the Woman's Missionary Union study during March. Nicholas is associate editor of *The Baptist Record*. Photographed by Ken Touchton, the book tells of people who have made their whole lives a witness for Christ.

### 50 years ago

Mississippi Woman's College in Hattiesburg completes organization for an endowment campaign whose goal is to raise \$225,000 in one day, announced I. E. Rouse, president. April 17, which is Easter Sunday, has been designated as Victory Day.



## EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK



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Perkins Jr.**  
Editor

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# Four minutes that could change the world

As the national media breathlessly chased after dirty tidbits on U.S. Senators and piously ridiculed Jerry Falwell for "outing" Tinky Winky the Teletubbie, an important story was (not surprisingly) overlooked — important, at least, to the Christian community.

The story begins as King Hussein of Jordan loses his hard-fought struggle with cancer on Feb. 7. Shortly after the public announcement of the king's death, President Clinton strode to the podium in The White House Rose Garden to deliver a four-minute eulogy to his long time friend.

"Today, the world mourns the loss of one of its great leaders, King Hussein of Jordan. I mourn the loss of a partner and friend. He was a magnificent man, and like so many, I loved and admired him," Clinton said.

So it went for 12 more paragraphs, expressing sympathy to King Hussein's American-born wife Queen Noor and offering the nation's prayers to Hussein's successor, his eldest son Abdullah.

It was in the final paragraph of his statement that the President delivered the bombshell: "The Koran teaches, you belong to God and you return to him. Today, my friend is in Paradise and God has welcomed home a good and faithful servant."

What? Could this be the President of the United States, leader of the largest Christian evangelical nation in the world and — even more to the point — a professed Southern Baptist, endorsing the teachings of Islam and its holy book?

Please tell us it isn't so. Even if the President was attempting to assuage the sadness that engulfed large portions of the Arab world over the popular king's death,

and even if he was attempting to provide solace to the grieving family, he spoke in tragic error.

His words were in tragic error because of the damage that will be done to the evangelical Christian missionary movement around the world, and especially to the work of missionaries of his own denomination who serve in some of the most hostile, radically-Islamic places on the globe.

Also, it's only logical to assume that adherents of Islam — one of the fastest-growing religions in the U.S. — will now see this country as even more open to their message: "Forget Christianity. Even your Christian president acknowledges the legitimacy of Islam. We have the truth."

Perhaps we could suggest, with all due presumptuousness, that instead of all that universalist double-talk the President use some variation of the following text for his next public eulogy:

"Today we mourn the loss of a great leader. He was dedicated to his country. He loved his family. He sought peace. He looked for the best in people. However, only one thing matters now. It is my earnest hope and prayer that he accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Lord and Savior before he died."

"I know he had the opportunity. Whenever we were together I personally shared the Good News, so I am at peace as a follower of Christ that I did what I could for him before he left this world for judgment in the next world."

"HI THERE. WE'RE YOUR NEW NEIGHBORS. PLEASE COME OVER AND INVITE US TO CHURCH."



"If you don't know Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior, I urge you to accept him today, for he is the only way to the Father. He can change your life, just as he changed mine."

"Don't put it off another day. Do it now. The hour is late, and Jesus stands at the door to your heart and knocks. Won't you let him come in?"

It would be four minutes that could change the world.

## A PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE:



### The American Dream, revisited

By Carl M. White, Associate Editor

A few years ago one of the leading news magazines did a feature story called The American Dream Revisited. It posed the question of whether or not we have achieved this elusive quality called the American dream.

People who were raised in the '50s experienced a steady stream of marvels. Polio was conquered. Television was entering the home. Up in the sky, vapor trails left by new jet aircraft were shrinking the globe.

No problem seemed beyond solution. Good times were the byproduct of American technological know-how. People began to take prosperity for granted, and the age of entitlement was born.

The American Dream was the right to expect a good and improving life for ourselves, and an even better life for our children. It was our birthright as Americans.

Then along came the '60s, the early '70s, and the Vietnam War. Pollster George Gallup said that since the mid-'60s, a growing pessimism has become standard. Clearly a third of the time, when Americans are asked if they are satisfied with the way things are going in the U.S., the answer is a resounding "No!"

Yet the quality of life has continued to improve. In 1940, more than a fifth of the population

lived on the farm. Less than a third of these farms had electricity, and only 10% had indoor plumbing. Fifty six percent were renters, over half the households did not have a refrigerator, and 58% did not have central heat.

The typical workday for a stay-at-home mom started before 5 a.m. and was 12-15 hours long. In 1940, only the rich retired. Pensions were rare. Half of the men over 65 still worked. Hand laundering was common. Antibiotics were unheard of.

Today we take for granted central air and heat, jet travel, interstate highways, long-distance dialing, television, CD players, washing machines, dryers, microwave ovens, blue jeans, antibiotics, pantyhose, and permanent press clothing.

The integrated chip has brought on an entirely new revolution to life. We are living in truly remarkable times, the likes of which our grandparents never conceived.

The American dream has become the dream of the world. Western capitalism defeated Eastern communism, not on the battlefield but in the marketplace.

Our society has been able to consistently deliver more than was ever dreamed possible. Yet when asked, Americans are unsatisfied. In truth, since the end of the Second World War, we have achieved the dream of a more prosperous society — but in achieving it we are not happy.

Why? Because we have sought to fulfill spiritual needs with materialistic things, and it won't work. Even the church has fallen victim to the idolatry of the American dream.

In the process we have watered down the liberating truths of the Gospel into an easy salvationism that involves little or no commitment to sanctification. We talk about meeting needs, but that has more to do with providing a family life center with a weight room for men

and a aerobics class for women so the overfed can shed extra pounds, rather than developing a program to feed the truly hungry.

E. Stanley Jones observed that all our shallow theology has done is inoculate society with a mild form of Christianity, so that it will be immune from the real thing.

The result is not a security in Christ, but a security from Christ. We have just enough religion to think we are safe, and just enough to keep us from taking seriously the words of Jesus to take up the Cross and follow him — which means we have just enough religion to miss the peace and contentment that comes to those who truly follow Jesus.

What has been forgotten in this pursuit of the dream is that our forefathers and mothers came to this land not just to seek political freedom and a better life, but also the freedom to worship and follow God as one's conscious dictates.

Theirs was an individualism that was tempered by a faith that included a strong work ethic and a genuine concern for the welfare of others.

These people followed the original dream.

By contrast, our generation has turned the American Dream into a mad pursuit to get ours before someone else gets theirs.

God forgive us.



# Robert E. Naylor, former SWBTS head, dies at age 90

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP) — Robert E. Naylor, 90, president of Southwestern Seminary from 1958-78, died early on the

morning of Feb. 21, in his Fort Worth, Texas, home. Funeral services were Feb. 24 at Travis Avenue Church in

Fort Worth where Naylor served as pastor for five years prior to becoming president of Southwestern and where he continued as a member.

During Naylor's presidency, Southwestern's enrollment increased from 2,400 to 4,100 and the facilities were expanded significantly.

Naylor was born in Hartshorne, Okla., on Jan. 24, 1909, the son of a preacher. He was attending East Central State Teachers College in Ada, Okla., when he was called to the ministry in 1928.

He enrolled in Southwestern and began attending that August, graduating in 1932 with a master's degree in theology. He was married to Goldia Dalton in 1930 and had three children.

One of the three children is Rebekah Naylor, a Southern Baptist representative in India under the International Mission Board since 1973, working as a surgeon at the Bangalore Baptist Hospital.

His style of administration was noted for its clarity and straightforwardness.

John Drakeford, distinguished professor emeritus of psychology and counseling at Southwestern, said Naylor was always very fair and "very much straight from the shoulder."

"He was very, very forthright. He was very much on top of everything that was happening," Drakeford said.

In addition to his wife and daughter, Naylor is survived by his two sons, Robert E. Naylor Jr. of West Chester, Pa., and Richard D. Naylor of Austin, Texas; a brother, a sister, three grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.



## THE SECOND FRONT PAGE

# Record

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## Ground broken for Central Hills project

By William H. Perkins Jr.  
Editor

The whirl of heavy machinery and steady rhythm of thumping hammers could be heard in the background as ground breaking ceremonies got underway Feb. 23 for the \$1.75 million building project at Central Hills Retreat near Kosciusko.

Jim Futral, executive director treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board (MBCB) which owns the retreat, joined Larry Otis, member of Calvary Church, Tupelo, and chairman of the Central Hills Building Committee, and a number of committee members and volunteers for the ground breaking ceremonies.

Otis said the project will provide much-needed upgrades in the areas of:

- **Housing.** Each of the two lodges currently under construction measures approximately 7,200 square feet, and will each accommodate 80-100 Royal Ambassadors campers or other groups meeting at the facility.

- **Assembly.** A large multipurpose building, which the campground now lacks, will provide a central meeting area for 400-500 people. The building can also be configured as a gymnasium, and will include meeting rooms and an area where meals can be served.

- **Maintenance.** A new maintenance facility will allow for inside storage of supplies stockpiled by the Mississippi Disaster Relief Unit, as well as covered space for the unit's 18-wheeler mobile kitchen and related equipment such as generators.

The remainder of the maintenance facility will be utilized to store and maintain the retreat's tractors and other equipment.

- **Transportation.** All the roads on the retreat's property will be paved, moving the campground closer to being an all-weather facility.

The building committee has set a goal of completing the twin lodges in time for the campground's summer season, Otis said.

"I want to emphasize that this project would not be possible without the participation of the many volunteers who are donating their time and talents to this project. By utilizing volunteers, the cost sav-

ings on the lodges alone will be between \$100,000-\$150,000 per lodge.

"About 140 people have volunteered. Their presence on the site will be staggered as the need arises for their various construction skills, and all their work is being done under the supervision of an engineer and architect," Otis said.

Rudy Hurst, member of Woolmarket Church, Biloxi, and a volunteer construction supervisor, said that work began on March 1 with about 45 volunteers.

"We're standing up walls. It's a nice day for it," Hurst reported.

Jim Didlake, director of the MBCB Brotherhood Department which manages the campground, offered his assessment of the volunteer effort.

"Why do they do it? One reason is that they have a commitment to the Lord's work and feel this is where he wants them to use their talents.

"Another reason is that they really believe strongly in the Christian education program at Central Hills," Didlake said.

"The volunteers are providing a tremendous cost savings for Mississippi Baptists, and their work allows us to build much more than we could without them.

Their continued participation will be vital to having these buildings ready for the camping season," he pointed out.

Didlake

appealed to Mississippi Baptists to become involved in the Central Hills building project. For more information on how to get involved, contact Didlake at P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Telephone: (601) 968-3800 or toll-free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651.

Interested parties may also contact Central Hills manager Dan West at P.O. Box 723, Kosciusko, MS 39090. Telephone: (601) 289-9730.

The MBCB, at its August 1998 meeting, approved the borrowing of up to \$5 million over a two-year period for repairing and upgrading both Central Hills Retreat and Gulfshore Assembly in Pass Christian, which is also owned by MBCB.

Debt service is being funded through the Mississippi Cooperative Program.

"We are going to borrow as little as possible and pay it off as quickly as possible," said Barri A. Shirley, MBCB business administrator.



**DIGGING IN** — Terry Cross (holding shovel, left) and Kermit McGregor (holding shovel, right) break ground Feb. 23 for two lodges that are part of the \$1.75 million building project at Central Hills Retreat near Kosciusko. Cross, a member of State Boulevard Church in Meridian, is a volunteer supervisor for the project, and McGregor, pastor of First Church, Mendenhall, is a member of the Central Hills Building Committee overseeing the project. Looking on are Jim Futral (to right of Cross), executive director-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board which owns the retreat; Rudy Hurst (to right of McGregor), member of Woolmarket Church, Biloxi, and a volunteer supervisor; and Larry Otis, (to right of Hurst), member of Calvary Church, Tupelo, and chairman of the Central Hills Building Committee. (Photo by William H. Perkins Jr.)



# IMB asks for Miss. help in Honduras relief



The International Mission Board (IMB) of the Southern Baptist Convention has requested that Mississippi Baptists form a two-year missions partnership with the La Ceiba region in the hurricane devastated country of Honduras, according to the director of partnership missions for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board (MBCB),

Paul Harrell.

Twelve trips are scheduled for the remainder of 1999, according to the partnership office. (See box at right.) Two mission trips have already taken place. Robert Davis, an evangelist on the Feb. 13-20 medical/dental team, reported

seeing 562 professions of faith while at El Ojochal.

The total cost for a 1999 mission trip to Honduras is \$765. This covers roundtrip airfare from New Orleans, insurance, food, lodging, and transportation

in Honduras. Additional funds for medical supplies may be required for those going on medical/dental projects.

"What better way to demonstrate Christian love than to come along side these dejected people and provide encouragement, Christian support, and financial assistance?" Harrell asked.

"Our work in La Ceiba will focus on three areas: constructing 100 houses, providing medical/dental teams, and assisting small crop farmers with agricultural needs," Harrell said.

In Sept. 1998, Hurricane Mitch devastated the country of Honduras. Several thousands of people were killed, with thousands more injured and made homeless.

In several places, rain measured 12 inches every six hours. The country's infrastructure was destroyed. The lush coastal plains and the pine-studded interior are now in ruin.

In October and November of 1998, Mississippi Baptists through their Disaster Relief Ministry and the Honduras Medical/Dental Fellowship, responded to a request for help from the coastal town of La Ceiba, shipping 20 cargo containers the size of 18 wheelers. Each contained food, medicine, and clothing donated by Baptists.

Ken Cummins, resident

career missionary in Honduras, said people are in great need of help rebuilding their lives and their communities.

For more information on mission trips to Honduras or other partnership mission projects, contact the Partnership Missions Office at P. O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Telephone (601) 968-3800, or toll-free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651.

## 1999 Honduras Mission Trip Dates

Dates	Location	Team Leader	Phone number
March 6-13	Potrerrillos, Olancho	Ken Hopkins	(601) 544-1794
March 20-27	North Coast	Mackie Davis	(601) 264-4815
April 17-24	Orocuina, Choleteca	Kevin Wallace	(601) 489-2414
May 15-22	Tegucigalpa	Charlie Sickles	(903) 885-5814
May 29-June 5	North Coast	Bill Seawell	(601) 582-3300
June 12-19	to be determined	Kit Smith	(800) 859-4093
June 26-July 3	North Coast	Albert Brown	(601) 649-1161
July 10-17	to be determined	Loyd Davis	(423) 476-0620
July 24-31	to be determined	Sara Rutledge	(256) 235-7320
Aug. 7-14	Santo Domingo	Don Reynolds	(615) 877-1368
Aug. 28-Sept. 4	to be determined	Steve Long	(704) 865-9622
Oct. 2-9	to be determined	Tom Smith	not available

## L.S. Polk, 86, dies in Calif.

Services for L. Stanley Polk, 86, were held Feb. 4 at Palm Church in Riverside, Calif. He lived and pastored churches in California for 32 years. In retirement he accepted the position of associate pastor at Palm Church, Calif., from 1981 until 1995.

Polk, who was born in Oak Vale, received a bachelor of arts degree from Mississippi College and a bachelor of divinity degree from New Orleans Seminary. He pastored Eastside Church in Jackson from 1945-1952 before moving to California.

His wife Inez; a daughter, Kay Eaves of Louisville; and a grandson, Stanley Orr of Riverside, Calif., survive him.

## Cancer claims missionary women Norville, Rodgers

COOPER CITY, Fla. (BP) — Two Southern Baptist missionary women have died of cancer: Brenda Conwell Norville, 50, and Wilma Rodgers, 60.

Norville, International Mission Board (IMB) communications missionary for churches in the Caribbean, died Feb. 15 in Cooper City, Fla., after a long battle with brain cancer.

Rodgers, IMB missionary to Cote d'Ivoire, died Feb. 12 in Independence, Mo. She had returned to the U.S. on medical leave for cancer last year.

Norville, from Munday, Texas, edited Sunday School lessons for older children in the English-language churches of the Caribbean Basin. She and

her husband, Buddy, had been assigned to the Caribbean Baptist Communications Centre in Hollywood, Fla., since 1989.

They worked in the Caribbean Christian Publications division, which produces Bible study, evangelism, and discipleship materials used throughout the Caribbean.

"Brenda treated her demanding and often stressful task as a challenge and did it well," said Arthur Edgar,

Jamaican-born director of the center. "However, she was hap-

piest when engaged in the attendant responsibilities of training lesson writers and conducting teacher-training seminars for Sunday School workers in various parts of the Caribbean," he said.

The Norvilles first were appointed as missionaries to the Ivory Coast in 1974.

They resigned in 1978 and were reappointed to Liberia in 1979. They transferred to El Paso (Texas) Baptist Publications in 1988 and moved to the Hollywood area in 1989 when the Caribbean publication division shifted from Texas to Florida.

"With a full-time job as an editor and her role as wife and mother, Brenda still found time to be involved in outreach ministries such as literacy missions and the distribution of Bibles and Scripture portions," Edgar said.

Norville had been teaching English for speakers of other languages for about 10 years, said Kathy Wade, International Mission Board missionary friend and co-worker. "I can't emphasize enough her love for literacy," Wade said.

Even while Norville was sick, she continued to teach English to her next-door neighbor, who is Chinese, Wade said.

Norville also showed her missionary spirit when Hurricane Andrew devastated south Florida.

"Brenda was very much a part of the relief effort for about

the first week" following the storm, Wade said.

She and her husband helped to set up a mobile kitchen, distribute donations, and provide a neighborhood grocery store for hurricane victims.

Born in Knox City, Texas, Norville attended several universities in Texas and Southwestern Seminary in Fort

Worth, Texas.

While ill with cancer, she earned in 1996 a bachelor's degree from Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton.

Norville is survived by her husband and two sons, Scott of Fort Worth and Todd of New York City.

Rodgers, a native of Independence, Mo., was appointed as a missionary by the IMB in 1968 and served her entire career in Cote d'Ivoire.

She worked with weekday religious education, with evangelism in a government hospital, as director of a Bible correspondence school, as advisor for two local churches and as hostess for the Ivory Coast Mission.

Rodgers was a graduate of Southwest Baptist University, Bolivar, Mo., Union University, Jackson, Tenn., and Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas.

Prior to missionary appointment, she worked as a social worker and taught one summer with Project Head Start.

She is survived by two sisters and a brother.



Norville



Rodgers

## New Sunday School writers tapped

The Baptist Record has named new Sunday School writers for the three Lifeway Christian Resources curriculum lines for the new quarter starting with the March 7, 1999 lesson.

Writing for the Life and Work curriculum is Doug Bain, chairman and professor of the Biblical Division at Blue Mountain College (BMC). He was on staff at First Church, Tupelo prior to joining the faculty at BMC in 1976. He also pastored in Texas, Montana, and Panama. Bain and his wife have three sons.

Beth Watkins Cape, a Moselle native, is writing for the Family Bible series. Cape is a recipient of the bachelor of music education degree from The University of



Bain



Cape

Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg and the master of religious education degree from New Orleans Seminary. She spent two years as a missionary journeyman to Japan.

In addition to teaching Sunday School, she has served as a church pianist, music and youth director, and education director.

She and her husband and three children are members of First Church, Picayune, where she serves part-time as the director of children and family ministry.

Ken Hester, pastor of Mantee Church, Mantee, is writing for the Explore the Bible series. Hester was born in Oxford and raised in Clarksdale. He is a graduate of Mississippi State University, Southwestern Seminary, and recently received the D. Min. degree from Beeson Divinity School in Birmingham, Ala.

Hester and his wife have one daughter.



Hester



## PEOPLE REACH EXPO

Have you ever stopped to think about all of the different ways there are to reach people for Christ? If you just sat down alone and began to think of the various avenues that we use to share Jesus with others you probably could come up with dozens.

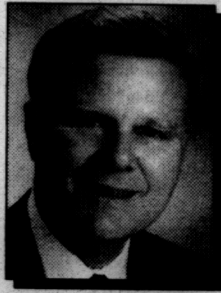
On the other hand, if you sat down with other Christians who come from different churches and different areas of the state or country and began to think together with them on how they and how we go about reaching people, you would probably double or triple the number of ways.

People Reach Expo was a new venture for Mississippi Baptists. The Witness Team at the Baptist Building conceptualized and then coordinated the efforts to bring various departments of the Baptist Building and numerous churches throughout the state for a Saturday get-together on Feb. 27 at the Agriculture and Forestry Museum in Jackson.

I believe that I can tell you that everyone who participated, as well as everyone who attended, was blessed.

What was it all about? Well, it was about reaching people and the ways that it can and is being done by different churches and different groups.

Just so you can see a few mental snapshots, there were



## Directions

Jim Futral, executive director-treasurer  
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

people there sharing about how to reach people in a parade or in a prison; how to reach adolescents or Internationals; and what was happening in the BSU and WMU.

You could see and learn how Christ is being shared through construction teams, backyard Bible schools, or disaster relief groups.

One of the things that blessed me the most was to see that the folks who were attending were doing more than just learning about reaching people — they were actually in the process of doing it.

As I walked the grounds of the Ag Museum I saw a prisoner who had work responsibilities there and I went over and met him and visited with him. As we talked, I asked him about his relationship to Christ and he began to tell me about his experience with the Lord.

He knew Jesus as his Savior but then he said, "You know Mrs. Kathy?" and I said, "Yes, I do." He said that she had

already been talking to him about the Lord.

As we continued to visit I asked him if he was a member of a church and he told me that he was. "Where?" I asked. He said, "Aw, you wouldn't know, it's way up in north Mississippi." I said, "What's the name of the church? I might know where it is."

Then he told me he was a member of the first church I pastored. At first he didn't know

whether I was kidding him or not, but when I told him some of the people's names in the church and that I knew who the pastor was, he was amazed. So was I.

He will soon be leaving prison and, more than just returning to society, it was his desire to be used of the Lord. I believe the Lord can and will use him.

Have you stopped lately and given thought to how the Lord may want to use you to personally reach somebody for Jesus?

He does have a plan for your life and that plan does include helping others to find Jesus and his plan for their lives.

More than likely there will be someone today you will see, maybe meet for the first and possibly the last time, who Jesus wants to touch through you.

Receive a blessing by being a blessing.

## SBC to keep name, Orlando

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — Recommendations affirming the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) name and Orlando, Fla., as the SBC's 2000 annual meeting site will be presented to messengers to the June 15-16 annual meeting in Atlanta.

The recommendations were approved during the Feb. 22-23 meeting of the SBC Executive Committee in Nashville, Tenn.

In a two-page report concerning the possibility of changing

the name of the Southern Baptist Convention — which it has had since its founding in 1845 — the Executive Committee said it "finds no compelling rationale" for a change, or for a feasibility study of the idea.

Concerning Orlando as the site of the 2000 SBC annual meeting, the SBC Executive Committee declined to act on two motions referred from the 1998 SBC annual meeting to move to another city. One of the motions specified New York City.

Orlando is the home of Disney World, thus the motions stem from the boycott of The Disney Company endorsed by messengers to the 1997 SBC annual meeting in Dallas, challenging various "anti-family" and "anti-Christian" directions and specific practices at the entertainment conglomerate.

The Executive Committee, in declining to recommend another city for the 2000 convention, said it believes messengers to the Orlando SBC will "meet the challenge presented by worldliness that the Southern Baptist Convention has met in other convention cities."

## M.M. Payne, retired minister, dies Feb. 2

Marion M. Payne, 67, of Blue Springs, died Feb. 2 at the North Miss. Medical Center in Tupelo. Funeral services were held Feb. 4 at Macedonia Church in Lee County, where Payne retired from the ministry five years ago. Burial was in the Macedonia Cemetery, also in Lee County. Born in Pontotoc County, Payne grew up in the north Mississippi area.

Churches also pastored by Payne, a minister of 30 years, were Blue Springs, Union County; Liberty, Monroe County; Locust Hill, Pontotoc County; and Oak Hill, Prentiss County. He also served as interim pastor of several churches.

Payne is survived by his wife Inez and four children, David, Wanda, Kathy, and Donald.

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# Annie Armstrong

## North Delta presents building to Friars Point church

By Carl M. White  
Associate Editor

North Delta Association director of missions M. C. Johnson recently presented the keys to the old Friars Point school building to Rodney Hibbler, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Friars Point, which meets in the renovated structure.

The presentation of the building to this new congregation is the culmination of ministry and prayers that started many years ago.

The old school building was a deserted farm headquarters when Johnson and the association first acquired it. Johnson had been looking for an opportunity to begin a new ministry in the small river port town for several years.

In the early '90s, the association held a series of Back Yard Bible Clubs and health fairs in Friars Point. Those ministry opportunities grew into an invitation to begin a Bible study in 1997. Interest grew in starting a new church.

"They began praying for a building," Johnson said. The owner of the old school agreed to sell the 13,000 square foot building and 9.5 acres, which appraised for \$108,000, for only \$20,000 if it were used for a church, Johnson indicated.

Using Mississippi River Ministry funds, the building was purchased in 1997. However, before any ministry could begin, the building needed a lot of work.

"Many volunteers from many states have contributed time and money to get the building ready to begin the new work," Johnson said.

Sunday School was started in September 1998 and,



**BELIEVERS FELLOWSHIP** — M.C. Johnson (center), director of missions for North Delta Association in Clarksdale, greets pastors of the newest African-American churches in the association (from left): Wilson Ramsey, pastor of Spruce Street Church, Clarksdale; Rodney Hibbler, pastor of First Church, Friars Point; Leon Butler, pastor of St. Paul Believers Church, Tunica County; Robert Lenair, pastor of Strangers Rest Church, Lula. North Delta Association is composed of Coahoma, Tunica, and Quitman counties. (BR Special Photo)

according to Johnson, the church is now running up to 80 people in attendance.

First Friars Point is one of four African-American congregations that are part of the fellowship of North Delta Association, Johnson indicated. The other churches are Spruce Street, Clarksdale; St. Paul Believers Church, Tunica County; and Strangers Rest Church, Lula.

for the Gospel message that reaches hearts wherever it is preached," Johnson said.

For more information on Mississippi River Ministries in Coahoma, Tunica, and Quitman counties, contact Johnson at North Delta Association, P. O. Box 999, Clarksdale, MS 38614. Telephone: (601) 627-3417.

In addition, a mobile chapel was donated to the association by Lee Moore Mobile Homes of Shannon. Johnson said they are starting a new work with the mobile chapel at Buck Island Community Living Park in Tunica County.

"More than 200 children live in these 188 homes and just as soon as the mobile chapel can be placed on site, we will begin Sunday School," Johnson said.

The site is located on Highway 61 across from the casino strip area. "We will be ministering to casino employees, who make up the population here," Johnson indicated.

Johnson said Vacation Bible School and Day Camp ministries are already scheduled for this summer at both the Friars Point and the new Buck Island sites.

For Johnson, the work at Friars Point has a very special, personal significance. During an evangelism service last summer at Friars Point, Johnson's 10-year-old, red-headed grandson Winston gave his heart to Jesus while Hibbler was preaching.

"We were so thrilled. Praise God

## Missionary sees Delaware as family with unique challenges

DOVER, Del. — North American missionary Jim McBride is looking for opportunities to impact Delaware in a positive way, and those opportunities

rely on church support. "Third and fourth generations of the same families end up in prison here," said McBride. "We want to stop that trend. If we can

introduce them to Christ, he can change their lives."

McBride and his wife, Daphne, are among the missionaries featured in this year's Week of Prayer for North American Missions, March 7-14. The Week of Prayer is part of the Season of North American Missions, which also includes the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering with a national goal for 1999 of \$45 million and a challenge goal of \$50 million.

As director of missions for the Delaware Baptist Association, McBride travels a region that is 100 miles long and 45 miles at its widest point. He spends most of his time on the road, meeting with pastors and volunteers helping them reach their community.

"Delaware is small, more like a family," said McBride. "But, it's a family with some unusual problems."

McBride's job is to get the churches in his association to see the challenges as opportunities and to offer Biblically based outreach into these areas.

Working closely with a chaplain at the Delaware Correctional Institute in Smyrna, Del., McBride is also developing relationships with the director of corrections and the governor of the state.

One way he is aiding inmates and their families is through Project REACH. McBride is enlisting churches

to adopt 10-12 inmates families, helping them with everything from hygiene to finances to home repair.

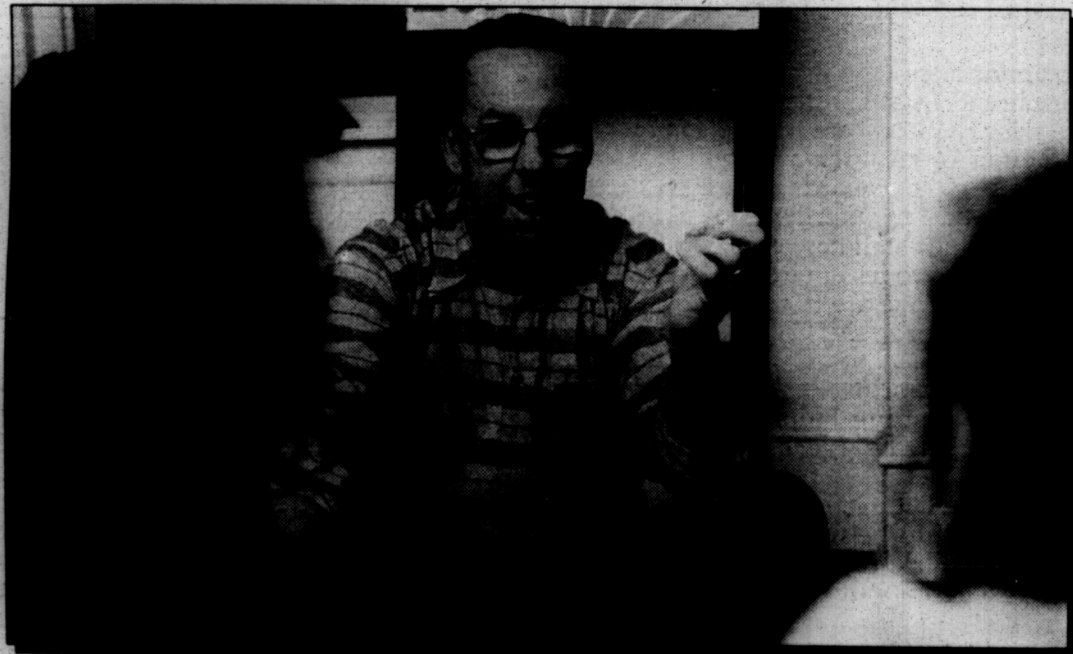
The McBride's are excited to be part of what God is doing in Delaware. "We praise God for the lives that are being changed through Christ," he said.

God is providing for the McBride's and the volunteers they work with, but they still covet your prayers.

"Our pastors are overwhelmed with the needs of the people here," McBride said. "Christian counselors are greatly needed in this area."

Additionally, more volunteers are always welcome, as are church planters and pastors. Space for new churches is a constant need.

"Money is important, mission trips are important, but the number one priority need we have is the prayers of Southern Baptists," McBride said. "When you pray for us, it makes a difference."



**MEETING THE CHALLENGES** — North American missionary Jim McBride helps a student with her homework through an after school tutoring program. McBride is director of missions for the Delaware Baptist Association. Delaware may be small, "like a family, but a family with some unusual problems," according to McBride. If we can introduce the people to Christ, he can change their lives," he said. (Photo by Carla Varisco)



1999 Season  
North American  
Missions

Week of Prayer  
American Missions  
March 7-14,

North American Missions  
in Sunday School  
March 14, 1999





# g Easter Offering

## for North American Missions

Missionary fishes professionally — for men *and* fish

AUSTELL, Ga. — Glenn Chappelear takes seriously Christ's call to be a fisher of men. Unlike others, his particular calling also allows him to be a fairly serious fisher of fish.

Chappelear is a Mission Service Corps (MSC) volunteer with the North American Mission Board, touring on the Bassmaster and Forrest L. Wood (FLW) EverStart tours September through June every year, ministering to competitors and spectators throughout the nation.

He and his wife Donna are among the missionaries featured in this year's Week of Prayer for North American Missions, March 7-14. The Week of Prayer is part of the Season of North American Missions, which also includes the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering with a national goal for 1999 of \$45 million and a challenge goal of \$50 million.

A former youth minister with a love for fishing, Chappelear now leads evangelistic fishing clinics and is a frequent speaker at wild game dinners — in addition to ministering to fellow professional fishermen.

Since his new ministry began in January 1998, he has seen 135 individuals commit their lives to Christ, but when the ministry transition began, the details of how God might work through his two passions were far from certain.

Chappelear was in his sixth year as youth pastor of First Church of Powder Springs, a suburb of Atlanta, when he felt God call him to be on the fishing tour.

"I was real comfortable at First Baptist," he said. "We were averaging 186 youth in Sunday School, and had taken 220 plus young people to youth camp the previous summer."

On Jan. 8, 1997, when he and his wife learned they were expecting their first child, he thought life wasn't going to get much better. He even joked, "nothing will top this unless Ranger Boats calls and wants me to fish professionally."

That same afternoon while at a boat show in downtown Atlanta, a representative of the boat manufacturer did just that.

Chappelear turned to the North American Mission Board, where he discovered he had two options: chaplaincy or the volunteer Mission Service Corps.

"I didn't like the word 'volunteer,'" he said. "I would have to raise my own support. I've always given money, but I'd never asked for it."

Chappelear began thinking about fishing professionally while continuing his student ministry. He felt God had a reason for him to be on the fishing tour, but wasn't sure what it was.

"That's when I went to a fishing competition in western New York," he said. "I called the nearest Southern Baptist

director of missions (DOM) to ask if I could speak while I was there."

The DOM told him there was no Southern Baptist ministry in the area he was going, and "that was my Macedonian Call to ministry. I had driven past 15 or more churches just to get to work at First Baptist that morning. I knew I was needed elsewhere."

Chappelear's next step was to call the pastor of the Southern Baptist church closest to where he would be fishing in New York. "I asked him if I could speak in his church. He told me 'Glenn, we've been praying that God would help us reach our community.'"

A few weeks later, he went to a boat manufacturer dealer meeting in Branson, Mo. In talking with another professional fisherman, he asked if the man had made



**HITTING THE ROAD** — Mission Service Corps volunteer Glenn Chappelear travels the country, fishing on a professional circuit and ministering to competitors and spectators. A former youth minister with a love for fishing, Chappelear now leads evangelistic fishing clinics and is a frequent speaker at wild game dinners. (Photo by Gary Meeks)

it to the Bassmaster Classic that year. "He answered, 'No, my wife and I got a divorce and I just haven't been able to concentrate on fishing.'"

"I sensed God's Spirit saying, 'Glenn, do you think anyone in the fishing industry cares that this man got a

divorce? This is exactly who I want you to minister to,'" he said. "I told my wife that God had called me, and I'm going."

On July 14, 1997, Chappelear "purposed in my heart, like it says in Daniel 1:8, to do what God was calling me to do." In the fall, he announced his plans to his church and began raising his support.

In January 1998, he resigned his church position to fish full time on the Bassmaster and FLW EverStart tours.

Chappelear's love of fishing, hunting, and outdoor life have given him opportunities to minister he never thought possible. He and other Christian pros have built an outreach fishing seminar, where they lead a 45-minute fishing session followed by Chappelear sharing the Gospel.

"I get to stand in my boat and tell them about Christ," he said. "I tell them, 'you've seen what I fish with, but this is what I live by,' and I hold up my Bible and tell them my testimony."

"I talk about hunting and fishing, then share about priorities and give an invitation. This is how we reach guys who hunt and fish but don't show up on Sunday at 11 a.m."

Since beginning his ministry in January 1998, he has helped host 25 wild game banquets and 25 fishing seminars. Each of the men who have been led to Christ has been paired with a local church for discipleship.

Chappelear is the only Southern Baptist working full-time as a minister to those in fishing, a sport that attracts 44 million people in America each year.

"I know I'm in the right place," he said.

"Like Daniel, I have a purpose in my heart."



## NAMB earmarks extra \$2 million

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (BP) — The North American Mission Board (NAMB) will put \$2 million dollars more into church planting and evangelism this year than originally planned due to the "faithfulness of Southern Baptists and the blessings of God."

NAMB President Robert E. "Bob" Reccord announced the increase to executive directors of state Baptist conventions with whom NAMB's mission work in the United States and Canada is conducted. He said the funds are the result of larger than anticipated income as well as increased efficiencies at the agency.

"Last year, praise God, Southern Baptists gave record amounts to the Cooperative Program and the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering," Reccord said, "and in the year and a half we've been in existence, our staff has reduced overhead expenses from 18% of our three predecessor agencies to less than 11% at NAMB."

"We could have put this money into reserves, but we are in urgent times and don't need to squirrel away money in reserves," Reccord said. "We need to get the job done and believe you need the money on the field."

State convention executives meeting in Colorado Springs, Colo., Feb. 11, met the announcement with applause and expressions of appreciation.

"This is certainly a gift from the Lord," said Carlisle Driggers, executive director of the South Carolina Baptist Convention.

Anthony Jordan, executive-director of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, expressed appreciation for the partnership between NAMB and the state conventions. "This is another opportunity to work together to impact North America with the gospel. We are particularly excited about how this money can impact the newer work states," Jordan said.

Charles Sullivan, executive director of the State Convention of Baptists in Indiana, agreed. "For newer work states this will mean a real moving forward in church planting and evangelism. We've got places all over Indiana where we can use these funds."

Fermin Whittaker, executive-director treasurer of the California Southern Baptist Convention, exclaimed simply, "Hallelujah!"

Season of  
American  
Missions

Prayer for North  
American Missions  
March 7-14, 1999

American Missions Day  
Sunday School  
March 14, 1999

Annie Armstrong  
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## NAMES IN THE NEWS

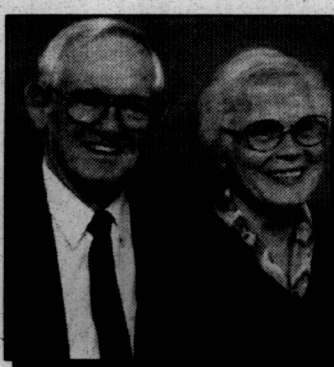


Wildman and Nelson

**Danny Wildman**, chairman of the deacons at Wade Church, Jackson County, (pictured) is presenting a certificate to **Steve Nelson**, newly ordained deacon. **Bill Bart** is pastor.

**Caley R. Nichols**, pastor of Highland Church, Vicksburg, and his wife **Marie** will be honored on the occasion

of their 50th wedding anniversary, March 6, 2-4 p.m., at the church. He is a native of Magee and she is the former Marie Nance of Philadelphia. They have two children, Gary Nichols and Gwen Nichols Robertson and four



The Nichols

grandchildren. For more information, call the church at (601) 636-7349.

**Bernette Fielder**, retired pastor of Evansville Church, Northwest Association, effective Feb. 28, will be living in Gore Springs, Grenada County. Fielder is available for supply and interim. He can be contacted at (601) 227-9595.

**Riverside Church, Pass Christian**, licensed **B. J. Lock** to the ministry on Jan. 24. Lock is currently serving the church as minister of students. Pictured (from left) are **Sam Parker**, pastor, and **Lock**.



Parker and Lock

## Revival results

**First Church Fannin (Rankin)**: Feb. 7-10; 12 professions of faith; **Clark Stewart**, Crystal Springs, evangelist; **Doug Spires**, Summit, music; **Leroy J. Brewer Jr.**, pastor.

**Leaf River, Forest**: March 7-10; Sunday, high attendance day for Sunday School, worship services, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7:30 p.m.;

**Hugh Martin**, guest speaker; **Jerry Peagler**, music.

**Eden, Eden**: March 7-10; 7 p.m. each day; **Bob Smith**, guest speaker; **Jeff Dixon**, music.

**Ebenezer, (Attala)**: July 11-14; services, 7 p.m.; Sunday morning, **Sammy Ray**, Peeler Memorial Church; Sunday night, **Johnny Parks**, Jerusalem Church; Monday night, **Dewitt Cutts**, Poplar Springs, Poplar Creek; Tuesday night, **Joe Pate**, Parkway Church, Kosciusko; and Wednesday night, **Ralph Hunt**, Main Street Church, Goodman. **Kenneth Mangrum** and **Tommy Overstreet**, music; **Harvey Overstreet**, pastor.

**Wayside, Vicksburg**: March 7-10; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; **Greg Clements**, Vicksburg, evangelist; **Linda Paterson**, Wayside Church, music; **Larry W. Haggard**, pastor.

## James Allgood, retired minister, dies

**James Kelly Allgood Sr.**, 85, a retired minister, died Feb. 11 of heart failure at the Mississippi Baptist Medical Center in Jackson. Services were held Feb. 13 at Black Jack Church in Vaughan.

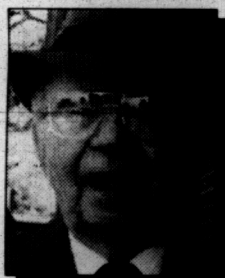
Allgood was a Brookhaven native and a longtime resident of Yazoo County. He attended New Orleans Seminary.

He served as pastor emeritus at Black Jack Church from 1952 until 1981 when he retired. His first pastorate was Philadelphia Church, Lincoln County, in 1933. Churches he also pastored, at the same time, were Union, Rama, Pleasant Hill, and Mt. Zion in Lincoln County. Other pastorates include Mt. Moriah, Lincoln County; Schlater, Doddsville, and Mt. Vernon, Leflore

County; and Yellow Leaf and New Prospect, Yazoo County.

After retiring in 1981, he was interim pastor of several churches in Yazoo City including Eden, Benton, Hebron, Melrose, and Sartatia, where he became its full-time pastor from 1994-1997.

Survivors include wife **Gladys C. Allgood**; daughter, **Mary Lane Nichols** of Vaughan; son, **James Kelly Allgood Jr.** of Jackson; brother, **John H. Allgood**; sister, **Edith Smith** of Brookhaven; six grandchildren; and 10 great grandchildren.



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**Lena Bratton** was born on July 4, 1900, in Mississippi. She taught in several Mississippi schools and in 1931 she applied to teach in the Indian Service at the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. After twelve years in the Indian Service, Lena joined the army. While serving two tours in Japan she was very active in Southern Baptist Foreign Missions. Her interest in missions helped to organize and support "Little Ridgecrest" at Fukuoka, Japan. There she taught an English class of Japanese men at night using the Bible as her textbook. She came home to Ft. Monmouth,

New Jersey in 1960, where she met and married **Ralph Mauriell, Sr.** in 1962. In 1963 she retired from the military and began Monmouth Baptist Church at her home in Tinton Falls, New Jersey. Eventually, the church moved to the local firehouse and school; seventeen months later, the fellowship had grown into a chapel which was constituted into an organized Southern Baptist Church on September 17, 1964. Various mission outreaches to the local community were held in housing developments, trailer parks, nursing homes, and jails. By the early 1970's three chapels, which later became churches, had been established. One of these, Calvary Baptist Church, Aberdeen, New Jersey, sponsored a mission which is now a well-established church in Colts Neck, New Jersey. **Mrs. Lena B. Mauriell** died on May 20, 1997, and was buried in Sardis, Mississippi, at Union Baptist Church Cemetery. Her legacy of being a devoted Southern Baptist lives on because she had an annuity with the **Mississippi Baptist Foundation** to be used for the benefit of the Cooperative Program. However, that is only the tip of the iceberg when one considers **Mrs. Mauriell's** activism concerning missions.

All of this started because a Mississippi Baptist Foundation contributor not only gave money for Christian posterity through the Cooperative Program, but also acted on her belief in Jesus Christ for mission activity personally.

The  
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For more information, contact the Mississippi Baptist Foundation by calling (601) 292-3210 or 1-800-748-1651, or by writing to P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205.

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**THE DOOR TO THE THIRD MILLENNIUM**



## JUST FOR THE RECORD

**Parkway Church, Clinton,** will host Marriage Makers Conference on Friday evening and Saturday afternoon, March 12-13. For additional information, call the church office at (601) 924-9912.

**The Way of the Cross,** an outside drama bringing the last days of Christ to life, will be held April 1-3, at Second Church, Memphis, Tenn. Guided tours will begin every 15 minutes from 7-9 p.m. each night. The walking tour takes about 45 minutes. For additional information, call (901) 682-3395.

**Center Terrace Church, Canton,** will host Mona Faith in concert on March 21 at 6 p.m. Special guest singer will be Gene Fant Sr. Songs written by Faith will be featured by children and adult choirs. For more information, call (601) 859-4186.

**Area-wide crusade** will be held in the Hebron Christian School Gym, Pheba, with Donnie Guy, evangelist, March 20-24. Music will be by Steve and Becky Carver. Activities on Saturday will include a pizza blitz for the youth at 6 p.m. Services will be held on Sunday at 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; and 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Mon.-Wed. For more information, call Hebron Church at (601) 494-2377.

**Marvelous Mondays for Christ** began on March 1 and will continue during the month of March at Mt. Zion Church, Brookhaven. Services begin at 7 p.m. Speakers will be Johnny Sykes, New Sight Church, Brookhaven, March 8; Bill Miller, Bethel Church, Monticello, March 15; Bendon Ginn, Easthaven Church, Brookhaven, March 22; and Clark Stewart, Harmony Church, Crystal Springs, March 29. Tim McCaffrey is

pastor. For additional information call the church at (601) 833-8018.

**Greater Gulf Coast Bible Conference** will be held March 7-11 at Pass Road Church, Gulfport. The conferences on Sunday will be 10 a.m. and 11 a.m.; and 9 a.m., 10 a.m., and 11 a.m. Mon.-Wed. Evening sessions will be held Mon.-Thu. at 7 p.m. Ladies luncheon and Bible study will be held 9 a.m.-12 noon on Thursday. Mens' Golf

Tournament will also be held on Thursday. Lunch and evening meals will be served each day and continental breakfast each morning. Edgar Jackson is pastor of Pass Road Church. For more information, call the church at (228) 863-1697.



**Phalti Church, Covington-Jeff Davis Association,** recently honored its deacons on Baptist Men's Day. The service was led by James Parish and Ken Sullivan, music director, preached the morning message. Deacons, (standing, from left) are Bud Parish, Freddie Hutton, Sid Thompson, Jim Polk, and Reggie Magee; (kneeling) are James Parish, Ken Sullivan, and Mark Robinson, pastor. The congregation of Phalti Church gave \$6,075 to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, which is \$4,155 more than last year.

## BAPTIST COLLEGE NEWS

**William Carey College Minister's Golf Tournament** will be held May 24-25 at Canebrake Golf Course, Hattiesburg. The tournament will begin at 12 noon on Monday and 8 a.m. on Tuesday. The cost is \$90 per person, deposit of \$40 due by April 30. For more information, call Jeff Smith, director, at (601) 582-6115.

**Music Department** of Mississippi College recently presented Richie Floyd, tenor, in a senior voice recital. He is the son of Richard G. and Wanda Floyd of Jackson.

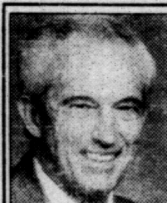
**Courses offered by the Mississippi College** office of continuing education through its adult cultural enrichment program are: Microsoft PowerPoint 97, March 15-23; history of Clinton, March 23-

April 20; Windows 95, Windows 98 and the Internet, April 6 and run for four consecutive Tuesdays; Microsoft

Word, March 17 and run for five consecutive Wednesdays. For registration information, call Kristi Lee at (601) 925-3301.



**Disciple's Cross, Blue Mountain College (BMC),** consists of a praise band with singers which lead worship at youth events, lock-ins, retreats, and other ministries. Students (pictured, from left) are Philip Cox, Blue Springs; Jennifer Franks, Savannah, Tenn.; Stephanie Jones, Manchester, Tenn.; Sarah Skillman, Red Banks; Amy Lewis, Memphis, Tenn.; April Taylor, Pontotoc; Becky Harris, Shannon; April Outland, Middleton, Tenn.; and Darrén Dickens, Prentiss. For more information, contact Tracy Moser or Julie Meeks, BMC, BSU, at (601) 685-4771 ext. 137.



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## Homecoming

**Holly Springs (Lincoln):** March 21: George Turnage, guest speaker; Billy Smith, music; lunch in fellowship hall followed by business meeting; special music by Obadiah at 1:30 p.m.

## Dr. Stephen Olford "Revive Us Again" Crusade

Dr. Olford will speak in both the Sunday morning & evening worship services at Dauphin Way Baptist Church, as well as Monday evening, bringing special messages designed to revive the hearts of all believers and to convert the lost.

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**  
**March 21 & 22, 1999**  
Sunday Morning ♦ 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Evening ♦ 6:15 p.m.  
Pastor's Meeting Monday ♦ noon  
Monday Evening ♦ 7:00 p.m.

at Dauphin Way Baptist Church  
3661 Dauphin St. (Dauphin & I-65),  
Mobile, AL 36608-1201  
Call (334) 342-3456 or (888) 536-7446

## Joyful Celebration

Woman's Conference

March 20, 1999

8:30 am - 3:00 pm

First Baptist Church  
Clinton, Mississippi

Registration through

March 14

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## LIFE AND WORK

### Understanding the cost

Mark 8:27-38

By Doug Bain

Discipleship is about "following Jesus," and that is bold! Following him is a journey into life in a way defined by personal awareness of Christ Reality. Following him is permitting our identity to be shaped by his. He had an assertive nature, but was assertive to be servant, assertive to let evil be transformed into good, assertive to suffer rather than to lash out in hostility and retaliation. He cut a different trail from the world's view and calls us to that kind of bold discipleship. The concept of discipleship may be familiar but the reality of it is often foreign. Moving then into recognizable yet new

territory, hear the text as it calls us forth into the New Humanity.

**Recognizing the Christ reality (vv. 27-30).** Caesarea Philippi was saturated with the residue of pagan religion — Baal worship, devotion to Pan, emperor worship. In this impressive context, with its competing religious claims and with different ideas about who a messiah is, Jesus pressed his piercing question. Whom do you sense that I AM? Peter's response has been called "the Great Confession" and the "watershed point" of the Gospel accounts. "You are the Christ" possibly summarizes the majority opinion for the disciples. Yet Jesus



Bain

says "tell no one." Why? Peter did confess but he did not seem to understand. Because of popular misconceptions about a deliverer, "Christ" was a name Jesus seldom used for himself (note v. 31. Misunderstanding is again seen in v. 32). Although Peter still had much to learn, he did recognize the reality of the Lord Jesus. For each believer today Christ would indeed be a Living Reality whom we trust, love, and serve in cooperative relationship.

**Seeing Jesus' distinctive messiahship (vv. 31-33).** Jesus is shown discipling the disciples, helping them learn. Dedicated though they were, they needed to reimage what Jesus was doing. His agenda was not political power domination nor economic provision. His style of being deliverer violated their expectation. Precisely at the point of our

expectations is where Jesus would teach us as well. But even when Jesus explains he is a suffering and dying messiah, Peter resists learning. "No way! The mistake here is not in my court. Jesus, you may want to consider more research about what a messiah does."

Besides being unteachable, Peter provided the mouthpiece for temptation — from within the inner circle. The temptation for Jesus once again was to buy into the world's expectations and to provide deliverance in a display the world would applaud. But this Messiah gives up assertive power displays. Disciples are slow to learn that.

**Embracing the reality of the cost (vv. 34-38).** The contract for discipleship has its terms spelled out clearly. Yet the three terms all relate to the same issue: the self under the Lordship of Christ. The sin problem is a self problem. Discipleship is good news that addresses that very issue.

Self advancement must recede, self sacrifice must rise, and self submission to Christ must rule. To "carry the cross" means being involved in transformation, even a reversal, being willing to be a power failure in the world's eyes so God's powerful love may be operative. Cross carrying is also the "self denial" that "follows Jesus." Jesus "carried the cross" all his life, but especially at Calvary where he gave up his life for each of us! His disciples are called to give up their self-directed lives — to die in that sense, if not literally as multitudes this century have done. Discipleship is costly! We surrender some of our familiar concepts, expectations, and comfort zones. The text has shown the beginning, progressing, and maturing of discipleship, calling for Jesus' kind of life to take shape in us.

Bain is chairman and professor of the Biblical Division at Blue Mountain College.

## EXPLORE THE BIBLE

### Life vs. destruction

Psalms 1:1-6

By Ken Hester

Dead flies on a window sill cannot be faulted for their lack of effort. They gave their lives focused on an appropriate goal while trying to overcome the great invisible barrier we call glass. Perhaps their lives would have been more fulfilling if they lived smarter rather than harder. History is full of dead people at the window sill of heaven.

Psalms 1 tells us how to live smarter. As an introductory psalm, Psalm 1 sets forth the theme for the book of living the joyous, righteous life. In this particular psalm, we are faced with two options for living.

You can be blessed. The word "blessed" means "happi-

ness." This word is also plural. Charles Spurgeon once said, "We might read it, 'Oh, the blessednesses!'" God's blessings can come in all parts of life as long as we follow His instructions.

**A blessed life avoids Godless living (v. 1).** This psalm tells us that to avoid the Godless living, we must avoid the Godless groups. The Hebrew words for "counsel," "way," and "seat" are plural indicating that the ungodly gather in crowds. Associations with such groups takes a person from bad to worse according to the psalmist. One begins with doing something "ungodly" to fit in with the group. As time passes, they become willful,



Hester

intentional "sinners." Then the person becomes "scornful" and enraged at righteousness in general. This Godless band of people also traps individuals. First, an unsuspecting person "walks" by them. Then he/she "stands" beside them. Finally, she/he "sits" with them. The blessed life, however, takes more than avoiding Godless living.

**A blessed life appreciates God's law (v. 2).** There is a joy to boundaries established by God. His laws are like fences of grace. God's laws protect us from the enemy. God's laws also indicate his concern for how we act and the character built in our lives. God's laws also identifies his area of ownership. We are free to move about the vast range of God's love marked for us by his laws. This joy is worth our meditation. As one ancient preacher wrote, "Meditation chews the

cud, and gets the sweetness and nutritive virtue of the Word into the heart and life." God's law and our meditation upon it positions us for growth.

**A blessed life accepts growth's lifestyle (v. 3).** This verse tells us that the tree's position can only be attributed to the love of God. The word "rivers" is plural. If one source of water goes dry, there is another. Contrary to agricultural chronology, the fruit is mentioned before the leaf. In Matthew 21:18, Jesus curses the leafy fig tree for having no fruit. Therefore, let the blessed life speak of its prosperity with the fruit of righteous living. The blessed life, however, is only one option for living.

You can be banished. The banished life is the ungodly life. The ungodly begin in dysfunction (1:4). The word "ungodly" is the same word used in verse one to signify the beginners in evil. "Chaff" describes their character as dead and worthless. The

phrase "which the wind driveth away" describes their doom. The ungodly also end in disconnection (1:5). When the Lord returns, he will separate the ungodly from his children. Spurgeon said, "Sooner could a fish live upon a tree than the wicked in Paradise." Finally, the ungodly are in destruction (1:6). As the long abandoned barn sits in the path of an oncoming tornado, so is the life that runs contrary to God's laws. Yet, for the righteous, they are tucked safely in the shelter of God's "blessednesses."

Questions for class discussion: What was the law of the Lord in David's day? How could one meditate on the law so long? How should people today find happiness according to the world's standards? What are some practical ways we can meditate on God's Word? What part of the Scriptures is your first place to look for wisdom? comfort? guidance?

Hester is pastor of Mantee Church, Mantee.

## FAMILY BIBLE SERIES

### Believe and live

John 1:1-18; 20:20-31

By Beth W. Cape

Family Bible Series, the book of John — that's my assignment. I have a husband and three precious, small children so I should know about the life of today's families. I have a seminary degree in Religious Education and have taught school for many years, so I should be able to teach. I love the book of John and taught it once before several years ago as a missionary journeyman to Japan. So I think I'm qualified (with the Lord's help).

An important question at this point is "Who is my audience?" That's you! Are you a Sunday School teacher looking

for help with your lesson? Are you a loyal Baptist Record reader who reads it cover to cover each week? Maybe you

are a person with a family and are caught up in those unbelievably busy years of raising children. Perhaps you are a senior citizen with failing eyesight soaking up the Word of the Lord. Are you a Baptist woman that reads this because there aren't many articles written by women and you're interested in a woman's perspective? Whoever you are, please pray for me as we study the book of John together under the leadership of the Holy Spirit.

As we look at the book of



Cape

John, I remember the differences between John and the other Gospel. Some believe that the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke were written shortly after the death of Jesus. The Gospel of John, however, was not written until about 70 or 80 AD, when John the disciple was an old man. This Gospel contains many stories that are not found in any other Gospel, such as the marriage feast in Cana, the story of Nicodemus, the woman at the well, the raising of Lazarus, and others. We will examine many of these stories during this quarter and will explore two main themes: life and light.

John's Gospel is almost as though he read the other Gospels and said, "What else needs to be said?" In the days when this Gospel was written the Christian church was no

longer made up of mostly Jewish people but was overwhelmingly Gentile. These people needed a Gospel that was easier for them to understand since they didn't come from a Jewish background. The Gospel of John addressed this need. John's use of "the word" in the first verses is a concept that both Jews and Greeks could relate to (for an excellent explanation of this difficult passage, see William Barclay's commentary pp. 26-39).

The purpose of John's Gospel is stated in John 20:30-31. "Many other signs therefore Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these have been written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name." This means much more than just eternal life. Most of us don't spend much time thinking about eter-

nal life. Maybe when someone dies it crosses our mind or when we hear it in church we think about eternal life. Probably as people get older they think about it more, but in the life of the average family we're too busy getting through each day to think of eternal life. "Life in His name" — this life has to be a daily life. We must "practice the presence of God" in our life to find the abundant life that Jesus talks about in John 10:10: "I have come that you might have life and have it more abundantly." If you don't know about this abundant life, or if yours hasn't been very abundant lately, I challenge you to make a commitment to God to spend the next 12 weeks reading and studying the book of John. Discover more about how to have the abundant life that God wants for each of us!

Cape is director of children and family ministry at First Church, Picayune.



# THE VILLAGE VIEW



Ronny E. Robinson, Executive Director

P.O. Box 27  
Clinton, MS 39060-0027  
(601) 922-2242  
e-mail: bcvl@misnet.com

## Honor Roll of Churches

Each January we evaluate the cash gifts received by The Baptist Children's Village during the previous 12 months. In this evaluation it has become customary to list the Mississippi Baptist churches in the descending order of the designated cash gifts. This does not include non-cash gift items that many churches contribute. This evaluation and analysis has become known as the "Honor Roll of Churches."

RANK	CHURCH NAME/CITY	1998 GIFTS
1.	First Baptist Church, Water Valley	21351.31
2.	Immanuel Baptist Church, Vicksburg	18592.64
3.	First Baptist Church, Corinth	17395.74
4.	Bunker Hill Baptist Church, Columbia	16380.53
5.	Hillcrest Baptist Church, Jackson	14295.00
6.	Morrison Heights Baptist Church, Clinton	14037.81
7.	First Baptist Church, Kosciusko	13681.00
8.	Perkinson Baptist Church, Perkinson	13657.00
9.	Russell Baptist Church, Meridian	13427.00
10.	First Baptist Church, Gulfport	13412.27
11.	Leaf River Baptist Church, Collins	12519.12
12.	Alta Woods Baptist Church, Jackson	12240.67
13.	First Baptist Church, Richton	10993.82
14.	First Baptist Church, Jackson	10868.00
15.	First Baptist Church, Brookhaven	10859.49
16.	Rolling Creek Baptist Church, Quitman	10330.27
17.	Van Winkle Baptist Church, Jackson	9270.00
18.	Highland Baptist Church, Vicksburg	9267.00
19.	Liberty Baptist Church, Liberty	9261.93
20.	Seminary Baptist Church, Seminary	9187.35
21.	Macedonia Baptist Church, Myrtle	8596.20
22.	First Baptist Church, Union	8549.00
23.	Center Ridge Baptist Church, Yazoo City	8503.00
24.	Causeyville Baptist Church, Meridian	8474.31
25.	Forest Baptist Church, Forest	8420.00
26.	Poplar Springs Baptist Church, Newton	8309.59
27.	Grace Baptist Church, Philadelphia	8270.00
28.	Sebastopol Baptist Church, Sebastopol	8252.76
29.	First Baptist Church, Canton	7892.38
30.	Heuck's Retreat Baptist Church, Brookhaven	7858.00
31.	Briar Hill Baptist Church, Florence	7850.00
32.	Harmony Baptist Church, Crystal Springs	7838.49
33.	Williamsville Baptist Church, Kosciusko	7806.00
34.	Conehatta Baptist Church, Conehatta	7729.65
35.	Indian Springs Baptist Church, Petal	7700.00
36.	First Baptist Church, Crystal Springs	7625.66
37.	First Baptist Church, Louisville	7191.44
38.	First Baptist Church, Booneville	7190.50
39.	Central Baptist Church, Brookhaven	6975.00
40.	State Boulevard Baptist Church, Meridian	6808.76
41.	Sand Hill Baptist Church, Richton	6672.00
42.	Midway Baptist Church, Meridian	6636.00
43.	First Baptist Church, Mc Comb	6596.40
44.	Hillcrest Baptist Church, New Albany	6465.00
45.	First Baptist Church, Summit	6328.00
46.	First Baptist Church, Clinton	6237.91
47.	Raymond Baptist Church, Raymond	6140.00
48.	First Baptist Church, Greenville	6103.00
49.	Society Hill Baptist Church, Oak Vale	6029.05
50.	Northwest Baptist Association, Hernando	3000.00
51.	Roseland Park Baptist Church, Picayune	6000.00
52.	First Baptist Church, Columbus	5929.32
53.	First Baptist Church, Columbia	5880.00
54.	Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Bogue Chitto	5756.00
55.	First Baptist Church, Amory	5708.32
56.	Chunky Baptist Church, Chunky	5548.00
57.	Rienzi Baptist Church, Rienzi	5434.17
58.	First Baptist Church, Coldwater	5305.00
59.	First Baptist Church, New Albany	5304.00
60.	Ingomar Baptist Church, New Albany	5210.40
61.	First Baptist Church, Holly Springs	5123.00
62.	New Prospect Baptist Church, Iuka	5116.55

63.	Pope Baptist Church, Pope	5027.63	179.	First Baptist Church, Eudora	2451.55	295.	Star Baptist Church, Star	1469.95
64.	First Baptist Church, Sardis	5007.79	180.	Foxworth Baptist Church, Foxworth	2448.10	296.	Crystal Springs Baptist Church, Tylertown	1460.00
65.	Mount Zion Baptist Church, Tate	5000.00	181.	Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, New Albany	2446.15	297.	Union Baptist Church, Sardis	1456.02
66.	West Kemper Baptist Church, De Kalb	5000.00	182.	Friendship Baptist Church, Mc Comb	2423.89	298.	Second Baptist Church, Greenville	1447.00
67.	Tylertown Baptist Church, Tylertown	4991.10	183.	Northminster Baptist Church, Jackson	2400.00	299.	Harmony Baptist Church, Louisville	1427.69
68.	Parkway Baptist Church, Clinton	4975.00	184.	Old Pearl Valley Baptist Church, Philadelphia	2400.00	300.	Pineville Baptist Church, Golden	1425.00
69.	Rocky Point Baptist Church, Carthage	4843.12	185.	Oak Hill Baptist Church, Pontotoc	2400.00	301.	Mount Zion Baptist Church, Taylorsville	1425.00
70.	Oak Forest Baptist Church, Jackson	4819.91	186.	Union Baptist Church, Corinth	2395.75	302.	Pheba Baptist Church, Pheba	1420.00
71.	Bovina Baptist Church, Vicksburg	4765.00	187.	Newhebron Baptist Church, Newhebron	2390.97	303.	Beulah Baptist Church, Myrtle	1419.00
72.	Old Silver Creek Baptist Church, Silver Creek	4676.23	188.	New Sight Baptist Church, Brookhaven	2377.00	304.	County Line Baptist Church, Union	1415.54
73.	First Baptist Church, Hazlehurst	4635.68	189.	Macedonia Baptist Church, Brookhaven	2371.00	305.	Oak Hill Baptist Church, Booneville	1415.00
74.	Gaston Baptist Church, Booneville	4613.96	190.	Indian Springs Baptist Church, Laurel	2363.48	306.	Mount Vernon Baptist Church, Columbus	1405.00
75.	Topisaw Baptist Church, Bogue Chitto	4557.75	191.	Mount Nebo Baptist Church, Collinsville	2358.64	307.	Carey Chapel Baptist Church, Red Banks	1403.02
76.	Ackerman Baptist Church, Ackerman	4553.76	192.	Eastside Baptist Church, Pearl	2344.00	308.	Horseshoe Baptist Church, Tchula	1392.00
77.	Hurley Baptist Church, Hurley	4546.33	193.	Artesia Baptist Church, Artesia	2335.92	309.	Evergreen Baptist Church, Louisville	1375.00
78.	North Greenwood Baptist Church, Greenwood	4496.28	194.	Spring Creek Baptist Church, Philadelphia	2332.58	310.	First Baptist Church, Mathiston	1359.75
79.	First Baptist Church, Abbeville	4488.25	195.	Jericho Baptist Church, Baldwin	2328.67	311.	First Baptist Church, Richland	1352.50
80.	Fellowship Baptist Church, Meridian	4464.91	196.	First Baptist Church, Ita Bena	2322.37	312.	Carmel Baptist Church, Meridian	1350.00
81.	Dry Creek Baptist Church, Mendenhall	4346.17	197.	Harmony Baptist Church, Walnut	2290.00	313.	Magee's Creek Baptist Church, Jayess	1349.00
82.	Meadville Baptist Church, Meadville	4322.94	198.	Calvary Baptist Church, Belmont	2289.20	314.	Valley Park Baptist Church, Valley Park	1340.00
83.	Liberty Baptist Church, New Albany	4322.34	199.	Shiloh Baptist Church, Big Creek	2283.15	315.	Zion Hill Baptist Church, Wesson	1339.00
84.	First Baptist Church, Quitman	4318.00	200.	Thrasher Baptist Church, Booneville	2264.24	316.	Pilgrim's Rest Baptist Church, Crystal Springs	1335.00
85.	Providence Baptist Church, Hattiesburg	4301.67	201.	First Baptist Church, Collinsville	2250.00	317.	Scobba Baptist Church, Scobba	1323.30
86.	Calvary Baptist Church, Waynesboro	4201.00	202.	Emmanuel Baptist Church, Greenville	2244.46	318.	Corinth Baptist Church, Magee	1322.00
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88.	First Baptist Church, Picayune	4195.78	204.	First Baptist Church, Bay St Louis	2228.00	320.	Galilee Baptist Church, Gloster	1309.88
89.	First Baptist Church, Calhoun City	4166.50	205.	Clarke Venable Baptist Church, Decatur	2224.37	321.	Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, Gloster	1284.00
90.	Springfield Baptist Church, Morton	4156.00	206.	Unity Baptist Church, Harrisville	2206.32	322.	Bethlehem Baptist Church, Walnut	1281.50
91.	Riverside Baptist Church, Monticello	4140.33	207.	Oakvale Baptist Church, Oak Vale	2200.52	323.	First Baptist Church, Lumberton	1272.52
92.	First Baptist Church, Batesville	4136.00	208.	Stanton Baptist Church, Natchez	2193.19	324.	Riverside Baptist Church, Pascagoula	1275.00
93.	First Baptist Church, Vicksburg	4103.07	209.	Midway Baptist Church, Jackson	2185.00	325.	First Baptist Church, Carthage	1267.43
94.	North Winona Baptist Church, Winona	4083.08	210.	Cairo Baptist Church, Ecu	2182.56	326.	Lowery Creek Baptist Church, Seminary	1266.75
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96.	First Baptist Church, Ripley	4056.92	212.	DeKalb Baptist Church, De Kalb	2158.00	328.	First Baptist Church, Pearl	1263.80
97.	First Baptist Church, Brandon	4016.30	213.	Providence Baptist Church, Jayess	2134.00	329.	Taylor Baptist Church, Taylor	1260.00
98.	First Baptist Church, Verona	3960.57	214.	Rock Hill Baptist Church, Brandon	2124.45	330.	Wellman Baptist Church, Bogue Chitto	1252.00
99.	Oak Grove Baptist Church, Mendenhall	3876.38	215.	Madden Baptist Church, Madden	2120.47	331.	Buchanan Baptist Church, Pontotoc	1250.00
100.	Arlington Baptist Church, Bogue Chitto	3843.00	216.	First Baptist Church, Belzoni	2109.59	332.	Slayden Baptist Church, Lamar	1250.00
101.	Walhall Baptist Church, Walhall	3750.02	217.	Ingram Baptist Church, Baldwin	2097.31	333.	Good Hope Baptist Church, Richton	1247.50
102.	Flat Rock Baptist Church, Blue Mountain	3750.00	218.	Providence Baptist Church, Cleveland	2087.10	334.	First Baptist Church, Belmont	1240.00
103.	First Baptist Church, Taylorsville	3750.00	219.	Second Baptist Church, Indianola	2073.02	335.	New Bethel Baptist Church, Carrollton	1237.05
104.	Big Creek Baptist Church, Big Creek	3735.08	220.	First Baptist Church, Grenada	2055.00	336.	Unity Baptist Church, Picayune	1230.00
105.	Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Brookhaven	3735.00	221.	DeSoto Baptist Church, Shubuta	2054.77	337.	Wheeler Grove Baptist Church, Corinth	1229.00
106.	First Baptist Church, Vancleave	3665.00	222.	Calvary Baptist Church, West Point	2043.11	338.	Southside Baptist Church, Yazoo City	1227.00
107.	Center Hill Baptist Church, Ecu	3644.04	223.	Siloam Baptist Church, Magee	2016.42	339.	Whitesand Baptist Church, Prentiss	1220.00
108.	Ephesus Baptist Church, Forest	3626.00	224.	First Baptist Church, Coffeeville	2016.01	340.	Chapel Hill Baptist Church, Utica	1218.51
109.	Mount Moriah Baptist Church, Bruce	3625.00	225.	Bethlehem Baptist Church, Pinola	2000.22	341.	Pinola Baptist Church, Pinola	1218.34
110.	Fredonia Baptist Church, New Albany	3577.00	226.	Derma Baptist Church, Derma	1983.23	342.	Mount Vernon Baptist Church, Meridian	1208.43
111.	First Baptist Church, Flora	3557.24	227.	First Baptist Church, Pascagoula	1956.00	343.	Gooden Lake Baptist Church, Belzoni	1201.00
112.	Carrollton Baptist Church, Carrollton	3545.00	228.	Bethany Baptist Church, Prentiss	1955.56	344.	Union Baptist Church, Nettleton	1200.00
113.	Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church, Dumas	3537.00	229.	Georgetown Baptist Church, Georgetown	1949.16	345.	Harmony Baptist Church, Greenwood	1200.00
114.	First Baptist Church, Starkville	3508.29	230.	Crowder Baptist Church, Crowder	1942.66	346.	Immanuel Baptist Church, Greenwood	1200.00
115.	Handsboro Baptist Church, Gulfport	3500.00	231.	Fellowship Baptist Church, Ripley	1895.57	347.	Mount Vernon Baptist Church, Tupelo	1200.00
116.	D'Lo Baptist Church, D Lo	3476.27	232.	Lexie Baptist Church, Tylertown	1884.02	348.	Lone Oak Baptist Church, Corinth	1200.00
117.	Edna Baptist Church, Columbia	3475.28	233.	Oak Dale Baptist Church, Pontotoc	1880.59	349.	First Baptist Church, Steens	1200.00
118.	Pleasant Valley Baptist Church, Mendenhall	3469.46	234.	First Baptist Church, Polkville	1880.00	350.	First Baptist Church, Fulton	1200.00
119.	First Baptist Church, Natchez	3450.00	235.	Success Baptist Church, Saucier	1872.71	351.	Mount Zion Baptist Church, Florence	1200.00
120.	Calvary Baptist Church, Tupelo	3425.00	236.	Shady Grove Baptist Church, Heidelberg	1833.28	352.	Easthaven Baptist Church, Brookhaven	1200.00
121.	First Baptist Church, Okolona	3401.99	237.	Iuka Baptist Church, Iuka	1833.00	353.	Chaparral Baptist Church, Waynesboro	1200.00
122.	First Baptist Church, Waynesboro	3368.00	238.	Bowmar Avenue Baptist Church, Vicksburg	1820.00	354.	First Baptist Church, Hattiesburg	1195.00
123.	North Batesville Baptist Church, Batesville	3314.03	239.	Grays Creek Baptist Church, Hernando	1811.13	355.	South McComb Baptist Church, Mc Comb	1193.88
124.	Woodland Hills Baptist Church, Jackson	3308.00	240.	Misc. Church Designations, Jackson	1810.00	356.	First Baptist Church, Runnels, Petal	1180.97
125.	Holcomb Baptist Church, Holcomb	3288.30	241.	Central Baptist Church, Golden	1810.00	357.	Oak Grove Baptist Church, Bentonla	1180.00
126.	Trinity First Baptist Church, Waynesboro	3255.19	242.	Ludlow Baptist Church, Ludlow	1796.28	358.	Friendship Baptist Church, Sturgis	1172.35
127.	Ruleville Baptist Church, Ruleville	3244.80	243.	Salem Baptist Church, Raymond	1795.00	359.	Mount Zion Baptist Church, Meridian	1169.57
128.	Broadmoor Baptist Church, Jackson	3227.81	244.	Moak's Creek Baptist Church, Summit	1793.07	360.	Northside Baptist Church, Lucedale	1168.95
129.	Carriage Hills Baptist Church, Southaven	3200.00	245.	New Hope Baptist Church, Gulfport	1792.84	361.	New Home Baptist Church, Taylorsville	1167.48
130.	Beulah Baptist Church, Decatur	3198.01	246.	Wayside Baptist Church, Vicksburg	1780.00	362.	Davis Road Baptist Church, Terry	1155.63
131.	Vaiden Baptist Church, Vaiden	3178.82	247.	Harmony Baptist Church, Pontotoc	1779.65	363.	Hope Baptist Church, West Point	1150.00
132.	Mantee Baptist Church, Mantee	3175.50	248.	Dixie Baptist Church, Hattiesburg	1775.00	364.	Bethany Baptist Church, Potts Camp	1150.00
133.	Hurricane Creek Baptist Church, Sandy Hook	3143.12	249.	Calvary Baptist Church, Columbia	1771.00	365.	Ramah Baptist Church, Mc Call Creek	1150.00
134.	First Baptist Church, Isola	3120.35	250.	Berea Baptist Church, Mc Cool	1762.50	366.	Longview Heights Baptist Church, Olive Branch	1149.43
135.	Navilla Baptist Church, Mc Comb	3102.59	251.	Bethany Baptist Church, Calhoun City	1762.00	367.	First Baptist Church, Leakesville	1146.91
136.	Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Columbus	3096.37	252.	Bethel Baptist Church, Poplarville	1756.77	368.	Sallis Baptist Church, Sallis	1145.00
137.	New Harmony Baptist Church, Blue Springs	3089.08	253.	First Baptist Church, Pontotoc	1748.00	369.	Walnut Grove Baptist Church, Walnut Grove	1144.98
138.	East Philadelphia Baptist Church, Philadelphia	3086.07	254.	Vardaman Baptist Church, De Kalb	1730.15	370.	Port Gibson Baptist Church, Port Gibson	1144.83
139.	Kolola Springs Baptist Church, Caledonia	3078.25	255.	First Baptist Church, Purvis	1723.17	371.	Leflore Baptist Church, Holcomb	1142.00
140.	First Baptist Church, Indianola	3069.96	256.	Meadowood Baptist Church, Amory	1719.00	372.	Immanuel Baptist Church, Hattiesburg	1141.25
141.	First Baptist Church, Magee	3065.00	257.	Calvary Baptist Church, Silver Creek	1716.46	373.	Springfield Baptist Church, Carthage	1133.30
142.	Parkway Baptist Church, Tupelo	3053.00	258.	Gallman Baptist Church, Gallman	1710.93	374.	Hepzibah Baptist Church, Shubuta	1132.00
143.	Parkway Baptist Church, Kosciusko	3042.92	259.	First Baptist Church, Charleston	1708.93	375.	County Line Baptist Church, Walnut	1130.00
144.	First Baptist Church, Cleveland	3023.50	260.	Tuscola Baptist Church, Lena	1700.00	376.	Oakhurst Baptist Church, Clarksdale	1123.00
145.	Hollandale Baptist Church, Hollandale	3014.47	261.	Hathorn Baptist Church, Columbia	1679.82	377.	Tuscumbia Baptist Church, Booneville	1105.00
146.	Pace Baptist Church, Pace	3000.00	262.	First Baptist Church, Lyman, Gulfport	1664.93	378.	Union West Baptist Church, Oxford	1101.60
147.	First Baptist Church, New Augusta	3000.00	263.	Short Creek Baptist Church, Yazoo City	1650.00	379.	Griffith Memorial Baptist Church, Jackson	1100.00
148.	Ellistown Baptist Church, Blue Springs	3000.00	264.	Gum Grove Baptist Church, Brookhaven	1643.71	380.	County Line Baptist Church, Carthage	1095.00
149.	First Baptist Church, Eupora	2963.63	265.	First Baptist Church, Senatobia	1625.00	381.	Interstate Baptist Church, Shaw	1093.78
150.	Mount Moriah Baptist Church, Bogue Chitto	2944.00	266.	Broadway Baptist Church, Olive Branch	1619.60	382.	Poplar Springs Baptist Church, Mendenhall	1090.00
151.	First Baptist Church, Newton	2932.92	267.	Bethel Baptist Church, Etta	1615.54	383.	Calvary Baptist Church, Braxton	1089.00
152.	First Baptist Church, Mendenhall	2924.89	268.	Bethany Baptist Church, Meridian	1613.29	384.	Ora Baptist Church, Collins	1079.88
153.	Calvary Baptist Church, Jackson	2909.99	269.	Calvary Baptist Church, Bogue Chitto	1612.96	385.	New County Line Church, Carthage	1075.00
154.	Topeka Baptist Church, Jayess	2875.10	270.	Harrisburg Baptist Church, Tupelo	1610.00	386.	West McComb Baptist Church, McComb	1071.47
155.	Beatline Baptist Church, Philadelphia	2862.50	271.	First Baptist Church, Yazoo City	1603.00	387.	Perry Baptist Association, New Augusta	1070.00
156.	Mount Zion Baptist Church, Columbus	2825.89	272.	Shuqualak Baptist Church, Shuqualak	1600.00	388.	Forest Hill Baptist Church, Jackson	1060.48
157.	Beulah Memorial Baptist Church, Clinton	2807.98	273.	French Camp Baptist Church, French Camp	1596.42	389.	Drew Baptist Church, Drew	1058.44
158.	First Bellevue Baptist Church, Shelby	2800.00	274.	Dublin Baptist Church, Carson	1588.74	390.	Westwood Baptist Church, Meridian	10



# Missionary utilizes entrepreneurial skills

SAN DIEGO — North American missionary Rolland Slade has a dream of a computer-linked social services network, with 1,600 churches in San Diego County acting as "front-door" referral points.

When the system is fully developed, individuals will go to a church for help, and the church will do what it can while offering referrals to other agencies or orga-

social services referral needs are met, while churches receive donated computers and opportunities for ministry. "I think everybody wins," he said.

Such common-sense solutions to large-scale problems are not unusual for Slade, a former business owner who once dreamed of being a Fortune 500 CEO before being called to ministry.

As a church planter he helped build faith and community pride in a crime-ridden apartment complex. Now he applies his entrepreneurial skills as church and community ministries director for the San Diego Baptist Association.

Slade and his wife, Adrienne, are among the missionaries featured in this year's Week of Prayer for North American Missions, March 7-14. The Week of Prayer is part of the Season of North American Missions, which includes the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering with a national goal for 1999 of \$45 million and a challenge goal of \$50 million.

Slade, a San Diego native, is relatively new to Southern Baptist life. Raised in Catholic schools, he became a Christian through a campus ministry during high school and in 1987 acknowledged his call to ministry.

One of his first steps was to sell the athletic shoe store franchise he owned at the time. That gave him more time to devote to volunteer ministry at his church.

"People tease me that I went from selling one soul to another, from the soles of their shoes to their eternal souls," Slade said.

Then, in late 1991, a call came from Highland Park Church in San Diego's Paradise Hills community. A police officer had been shot in the large Meadowbrook Apartments complex across the street from Highland Park, and management had

asked the church to help.

Slade was asked to join their staff as a bivocational associate pastor, with responsibilities for leading ministry efforts at Meadowbrook.

Six months later, the transition in his calling became complete as another tragedy — the murder of the pastor's daughter — resulted in Slade taking on greater responsibilities as a full-time associate pastor.

An "Experiencing God" conference he attended during the period helped prompt his decision to begin full-time ministry.

"I came back from (the conference) with a renewed sense of urgency, but also an understanding that God was already at work and all I had to do was make some adjustments in my life to join him in what he's doing," he said.

Slade was a senior financial analyst for an aerospace company at the time, but the assurance of his calling outweighed the loss of income. "They encouraged me to take a leave of absence," Slade said, "but I said God had called me to full-time ministry, and taking a one-year leave of absence was kind of going on a cushion."

"So I resigned immediately."

Since joining the association staff three years ago, Slade has tried to adapt some of the same techniques to the larger mission field of the entire city.

"Through this I'm able to get additional resources for the San Diego Southern Association. Through this working relationship with social services, we've taken Southern Baptists in San Diego and put us on a different level. We were one of the best-kept secrets in San Diego, and now we're on the emerging side."



MAKING PLANS — Rolland Slade (left), church and community ministries director for the San Diego Association, walks through the Meadowbrook Apartments complex in San Diego with Andre Henderson, pastor of Highland Park Church. (Photo by James Dotson)

nizations. Meanwhile, a point of contact will be made that can serve as the basis for evangelistic ministry.

"(Churches) are going to take people at their point of need ... and when they ask us why we're doing it, we have an open door to share (the gospel)," he said. County

## Chaplain sees ministry as 'holy ground' experience

ROCHESTER, Minn. — An invitation into a hospital room where a family is dealing with a crisis is like "walking on holy ground," according to John Samb, a Southern Baptist chaplain at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn. — and Samb often has that opportunity since he works with families who have "run out of options."

Samb is one of the featured missionaries in this year's Week of Prayer for North American Missions, March 7-14. The Week of Prayer is part of the Season of North American Missions, which also includes the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering (AAEO) with a national goal for 1999 of \$45 million and challenge goal of \$50 million.

He is one of 3,000 plus Southern Baptist endorsed chaplains, but is unique in that he receives financial support from NAMB and AAEO. Most chaplains are paid by their employer, be that a hospital, prison, military or business.

A native of Wisconsin, Samb began his journey in chaplaincy as a recruit in the U.S. Navy. "Chaplains were important to me," he said. "They helped me stay in touch with my religious roots and traditions, but also helped me get in touch with the spirit a whole lot more and my calling."

Samb and his wife, Martha,

have two daughters, Meredith, and Lesley. They are members of Emmanuel Baptist Church in Rochester, where he teaches Sunday School and is chair of the church's missions committee. He currently serves as moderator of Pioneer Association.

The Mayo Clinic has multiple units, including two hospitals, and has 22,000 employees. The clinic processes about 500,000 patients a year.

Samb describes his work at the Mayo Clinic as a "complex ministry." This is partially due to the dual aspect of his job. Since his position is jointly funded by the clinic, North American Mission Board and the Minnesota/Wisconsin Baptist Convention, he has two roles: the clinic has assigned him to a non-surgical coronary unit and he also serves all Southern Baptists who come to the clinic for treatment.

Known as "John the Baptist" by his colleagues, Samb is the only Southern Baptist on the 23-member chaplaincy staff.

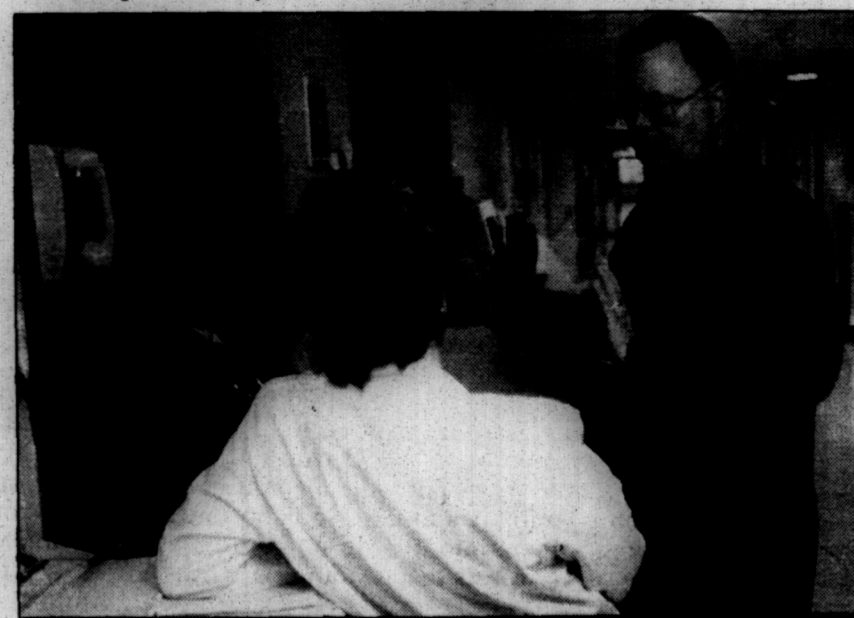
Noting the theme of the 1999 Season of North American Missions "God at Work," Samb believes that is his primary ministry: to remind patients and their families that "God is there. God is with them."

Samb also sees God at work in the health care profession. "More and more doctors and nurses are bringing a spiritual dimension to their work," he said.

"A few years ago, this was unheard of. It's not that they were not Christians, they just didn't bring it to their work."

"It is impossible for us to get to all the patients," said Samb. "Consequently, the more spiritual connection the staff has the better. A staff member says, 'Here is someone who can use you.' That helps me to get into a place where I am needed."

"This is an area where I see very strongly that God is very much at work," said Samb. "God uses that to direct these health care providers. I believe it comes from God, not just from them. That in itself permeates and creates an environment that is very conducive to spiritual care. That is very much of God."



MEDICAL MISSION — John Samb is a Southern Baptist endorsed chaplain, serving at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester Minn. While most of his work is with the patients on a non-surgical coronary unit (111 beds) Samb also works with members of the health care profession. (Photo by Ethan Hyman)

## Bibliocipher

By Charles Marx  
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TJ CXD HDLTJJTL LEU  
RBDZCDU CXD XDZODJ  
ZJU CXD DZBCX.

LDJDGTG EJD: EJD

Clue: H = B

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: Romans Ten: Eleven.